LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

maintaining, at an access point of a network, information about data received at the access point from a server accessible via the network;

providing to the server the information maintained at the access point;

receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the access point.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the access point is a network service provider.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the access point is a wireless access point (WAP).

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the access point comprises receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the WAP.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the WAP is a base station.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the access point comprises receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the base station.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the base station is an IEEE 802.11 base station.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network is a wireless local area network (WLAN).

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network is an internetwork.

10.   (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the internetwork is a worldwide network of interconnected networks commonly known as the Internet.

11.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein maintaining, at an access point of a network, information about data received at the access point from a server accessible via the network comprises maintaining, at an access point of a network, information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is a cellular telephone.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is a laptop computer.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is a personal digital assistant.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is a mobile telephone.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is a voice over internet protocol mobile telephone.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is a two-way pager.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the wireless user terminal is a wireless modulator/demodulator coupled to an electronic computing device.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the server is operated by a content service provider.

20. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the information about data received at the access point from a server accessible via the network comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server.

21. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the information about data packets received at the access point from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to at least one wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal.

22. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point to the wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the access point from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the access point using a Media Access Control address associated with the wireless user terminal.

23. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

maintaining, at a wireless access point (WAP) of a network, information about wireless user terminals that access a server coupled to a network;

providing to the server billing information for the user terminals accessing the server, based on the information maintained at the WAP;

receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the WAP for providing transmission of data between the server and the wireless user terminals.

24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the WAP is a IEEE 802.11 base station.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24, wherein receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the WAP comprises receiving from the server a payment for an account associated with an operator of the base station.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the network is a worldwide network of interconnected networks commonly known as the Internet.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein maintaining, at a WAP of a network, information about data received at the WAP from a server accessible via the network comprises maintaining, at a WAP of a network, information about data packets received at the WAP from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the WAP to at least one wireless user terminal.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the information about data received at the WAP from a server accessible via the network comprises a count of bytes of data received at the WAP from the server.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the information about data received at the WAP from a server accessible via the network comprises a connect time during which the user terminal is associated with the WAP to receive data from the server.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein the information about data packets received at the WAP from a server accessible via the network and forwarded by the WAP to at least one wireless user terminal comprises a count of bytes of data received at the WAP from the server accessible via the network and forwarded by the WAP to the wireless user terminal using a Media Access Control address associated with the wireless user terminal.

31. (Withdrawn) In a network having a server coupled thereto, and a wireless user terminal coupled thereto via a wireless access point (WAP) of the network, a method comprising:

posting to an account associated with the wireless user terminal an accounting of services provided by the server to the wireless user terminal;

receiving at the server a payment from the account in response to the posting;

providing from the server a portion of the payment to an account associated with an operator of the WAP.

32. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein providing from the server a portion of the payment to an account associated with an operator of the WAP comprises:

providing from the server a portion of the payment from the account to a billing entity for the network;

providing from the billing entity a portion of the payment to the billing entity to the account associated with an operator of the WAP.

33. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the billing entity and the server comprise the same device coupled to the network.

34. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the server is operated by a content service provider and the billing entity is a separate device operated by a network service provider.

35. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein posting to an account associated with the wireless user terminal an accounting of services provided by the server to the wireless user terminal comprises posting to an account associated with the wireless user terminal an accounting of services provided by the server to the wireless user terminal in accordance with billing information about the wireless user terminal.

36. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the WAP is an IEEE 802.11 base station.

37.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 36, wherein providing from the server a portion of the payment to an account associated with an operator of the WAP comprises providing from the server a portion of the payment to an account associated with an operator of the base station.

38.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein the network is a network of interconnected networks commonly known as the Internet.

39.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein posting to an account associated with the wireless user terminal an accounting of services provided by the server to the wireless user terminal comprises obtaining a count of bytes of data transmitted from the server and received at the WAP for transmission to the wireless user terminal and calculating a payment for services provided by the server to the wireless user terminal based on the count.

40.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 31, wherein posting to an account associated with the wireless user terminal an accounting of services provided by the server to the wireless user terminal comprises obtaining a connect time that indicates the duration of the user terminal's association with the WAP.

41.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

generating billing information for a wireless user terminal at a wireless access point of a network via which the wireless user terminal accesses the network;

transferring the billing information for the wireless user terminal from the wireless access point to a billing entity for the network;

posting an accounting to a subscriber account associated with the wireless user terminal in accordance with the billing information;

receiving at a service provider a payment from the subscriber account associated with the user terminal in response to posting the accounting to the subscriber account;

providing from the service provider a portion of the payment to an account associated with an operator of the wireless access point.

42. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein generating billing information for a wireless user terminal at a wireless access point of a network comprises counting a number of bytes exchanged between the wireless access point and the user terminal.

43. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein generating billing information for a wireless user terminal at a wireless access point of a network comprises counting a number of bytes of data transmitted to the wireless access terminal using a Media Access Control address of the wireless user terminal.

44. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein generating billing information for a wireless user terminal at a wireless access point of a network comprises calculating a duration of an association between the wireless user terminal and the wireless access point of the network based on the time at the start of the association and one of the duration of the association and the time at the end of the association.

45. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein providing from the service provider a portion of the payment to an account associated with an operator of the wireless access point comprises:

provi. ding from the service provider a portion of the payment to the billing entity for the network;

providing a portion of the payment to the billing entity to an account associated with the operator of the wireless access point.

46. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein the service provider is a content service provider.

47.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 41, wherein the service provider is an internetwork service provider.

48.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

receiving at a provider of services to a network a payment from a subscriber account associated with a wireless user terminal for access to the services provided;

providing from the provider a portion of the payment thereto to an account associated with an operator of a wireless access point via which the wireless user terminal accesses the services over the network.

49.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 48, wherein providing from the provider a portion of the payment thereto to an account associated with an operator of a wireless access point via which the wireless user terminal accesses the services over the network comprises:

providing from the service provider a portion of the payment thereto to a billing entity for the network;

providing a portion of the payment to the billing entity to an account associated with an operator of a wireless access point via which the wireless user terminal accesses the services over the network.

50.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

generating billing information at a wireless access point of a network;

transferring the billing information from the wireless access point to a billing entity for the network;

receiving at a provider of services to the network a payment for access to the services via the wireless access point;

providing from the service provider a portion of the payment to the billing entity for the network;

providing a portion of the payment to the billing entity to an account associated with an operator of the wireless access point.

51.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 50, further comprising:

providing a portion of the payment to the billing entity to an account associated with a network service provider that provides a means by which the wireless access point accesses the network.

52.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

providing Internet access to a wireless terminal connected to an IEEE 802.11 wireless local area network (WLAN);

tracking an amount of Internet access through the WLAN by the wireless terminal;

sending information regarding the amount of Internet access by the wireless terminal to a central billing entity; and

receiving from the central billing entity a financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal.

53.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 52 wherein providing Internet access to the wireless terminal connected to the IEEE 802.11 WLAN comprises the WLAN providing a connection to the Internet for the wireless terminal.

54.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 52 wherein providing Internet access to the wireless terminal connected to the IEEE 802.11 WLAN comprises an ISP providing a connection between the Internet and the WLAN for the wireless terminal.

55.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 52 wherein tracking an amount of Internet access through the WLAN by the wireless terminal comprises keeping a count of a number of bytes of data received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN.

56.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 52 wherein tracking an amount of Internet access through the WLAN by the wireless terminal comprises keeping a count of an amount of time the wireless terminal is connected through the WLAN.

57.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving a financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises receiving a percentage of an amount billed to a user associated with the wireless terminal for a period of access to the Internet through the WLAN.

58.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving one hundred percent of the revenue, minus a fixed fee.

59.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving a fixed fee based, at least in part, on a monthly base charge to the user as specified in a subscription agreement associated with the user.

60.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving a percentage of a total amount billed to the user based, at least in part, on a fee per time unit of access as specified in a subscription associated with the user.

61.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 57 wherein receiving the percentage of the amount billed comprises receiving a percentage of a total amount billed to the user based, at least in part, on a number of bytes of data transmitted to the user through the WLAN.

62.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving the financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises receiving a financial incentive based, at least in part, on a number of new subscription agreements generated.

63.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 52 wherein receiving the financial incentive for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises receiving a financial incentive based, at least in part, on a number of times the wireless terminal accesses the Internet.

64.   (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

receiving information from an Internet service provider (ISP) detailing Internet access by a wireless terminal through an IEEE 802.11 wireless local area network (WLAN);

determining an amount to bill a user associated with the wireless terminal based, at least in part, on a subscription agreement associated with the wireless terminal; and

providing a financial incentive to the ISP for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal.

65.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP comprises receiving information from a conventional wired ISP with a high-speed trunk to the Internet.

66.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP comprises receiving information from the WLAN.

67.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP detailing Internet access by the wireless terminal comprises receiving data regarding an amount of time the wireless terminal accessed the Internet through the WLAN.

68. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 67 wherein determining an amount to bill a user associated with the wireless terminal comprises:

billing the user a base subscription fee specified in the subscription agreement; and

increasing the amount to bill by an amount determined by the wireless terminal accessing the Internet for an amount of time greater than an amount of time indicated in the subscription agreement.

69. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 68 wherein increasing the amount to bill by an amount determined by the amount of time greater than the amount of time indicated in the subscription agreement comprises increasing the amount to bill by a per-hour fee times a number of hours greater than a number of hours specified for the wireless terminal in the subscription agreement.

70. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64 wherein receiving information from the ISP detailing Internet access the wireless terminal comprises receiving data regarding a number of bytes received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN.

71. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 70 wherein determining an amount to bill a user associated with the wireless terminal comprises:

billing the user a base subscription fee specified in the subscription agreement; and

increasing the amount to bill by an amount determined by a number of bytes received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN over a number of bytes indicated in the subscription agreement.

72. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 71 wherein increasing the amount to bill by an amount determine by the number of bytes received by the wireless terminal through the WLAN over the number of bytes indicated in the subscription agreement comprises increasing the amount to bill

by a per-megabyte fee times a number of megabytes over the number of bytes specified for the wireless terminal in the subscription agreement.

73.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64 wherein providing a financial incentive to the ISP for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises providing to the ISP a percentage of the amount billed to the user for a period of time.

74.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 73 wherein providing to the ISP a percentage of the amount billed to the user for the period of time comprises providing to the ISP one hundred percent of the amount billed to the user for the period of time, minus a fixed fee.

75.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64 further comprising providing a financial incentive to the ISP for generating new subscription agreements.

76.   (Withdrawn) The method of claim 64 wherein providing a financial incentive to the ISP for providing Internet access to the wireless terminal comprises providing to the ISP a financial incentive based, at least in part, on a number of times the wireless terminal accesses the Internet.